

Rec'd: CT/PTO 25 FEB 2005

17

Claims

REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT

1. Method for producing a dotted and/or planar grip-promoting and/or slip-resistant coating (10) on a holding or grip section (20) of a household utensil, characterized in that the coating (10) is printed onto the surface of the holding or grip section (20).
2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that a transfer printing method, in particular, a tampon printing method is applied, wherein the coating material is disposed on a pattern support (printing block) (30) in a predetermined configuration corresponding to a desired printing image, is received by a transfer element, and disposed therewith onto the holding or grip section (20).
3. Method according to claim 2, characterized in that the pattern support (30) comprises depressions (31) corresponding to the printing style, wherein the coating material is disposed in the depressions and is removed therefrom at least partially using the transfer element.
4. Method according to claim 3, characterized in that at least one of the depressions (31) has a substantially flat bottom (32).
5. Method according to claim 3 or 4, characterized in that at least one of the depressions (31) has an uneven bottom.
6. Method according to claim 5, characterized in that at least one of the depressions (31) has a concave bottom (33).
7. Method according to claim 5 or 6, characterized in that at least one of the depressions (31) has a convex bottom (34).

8. Method according to any one of the claims 3 through 7, characterized in that the depressions (30) have a depth of at least 0.020 mm and, in particular, of at least 0.5 mm.
9. Method according to claim 8, characterized in that the depressions (30) have a depth in the range of between 1 mm to 2 mm.
10. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 9, characterized in that the coating material is an initially flowable and, after printing, at least partially hardening plastic material.
11. Method according to claim 10, characterized in that the coating material is a plastic material which completely hardens after printing.
12. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 11, characterized in that the coating (10) has a thickness of at least 0.020 mm and, in particular, at least 0.5 mm.
13. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that the coating (10) has a thickness of at least 0.5 mm.
14. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 13, characterized in that the surface of the holding and grip section (20) to be coated is pre-treated before printing to increase adhesion.
15. Method according to claim 14, characterized in that the surface of the holding or grip section (20) to be printed is washed and/or flamed and/or subjected to corona treatment.

16. Method according to claim 14 or 15, characterized in that a bonding agent is disposed onto the surface of the holding or grip section (20) to be printed.
17. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 16, characterized in that the coating (10) consists of at least two layers (13, 14; 13, 14, 15; 19, 21) which are disposed sequentially and on top of each other.
18. Method according to claim 17, characterized in that the layers (13, 14; 13, 14, 15; 19, 21) consist of different materials.
19. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 18, characterized in that the coating (10) contains, at least in sections, additional substances which influence the surface structure and/or the surface effect.
20. Method according to claim 19, characterized in that the additional substances are organic or inorganic abrasive particles and/or abrasive fibers.
21. Method according to claim 19 or 20, characterized in that the additional substances provide the coating with a magnetic effect.
22. Method according to any one of the claims 19 through 21, characterized in that the additional substances are protecting and maintaining media which diffuse to the outer side of the coating and can be discharged there.

23. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 22, characterized in that at least sections of the coating are electrically conducting.
24. Method according to claim 23, characterized in that the coating contains a carbon black filling.
25. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 24, characterized in that the holding or grip section (20) comprises elevations (26) and the coating (10) at least partially covers the elevations (26).
26. Method according to claim 25, characterized in that the elevations are printed onto the holding or grip section in a previous step.
27. Method according to any one of the claims 1 through 26, characterized in that the holding or grip section (20) comprises depressions (27) and the coating (10) is disposed at least partially in the depressions (27).